

### Remarks

In view of the following discussion, the applicants submit that none of the claims now pending in the application are obvious under the provisions of 35 U. S. C. § 103. Thus, the applicants believe that all of these claims are in allowable form.

### REJECTIONS

#### A. 35 U. S. C. § 103

##### 1. Claims 1-6 are not obvious over Boroson et al.

Claims 1-6 stand rejected under 35 U. S. C. § 103(a) as obvious over Boroson et al. (U. S. Patent 6,470,594 issued October 29, 2002). The applicants submit that these claims are not rendered obvious by this reference.

Claim 1 is directed to an image display panel (*see*, specification at page 1, line 4). The image display panel has a front plate 106 and a rear plate 100 that have a sealed space 111 therebetween (*see*, FIG. 4 and the specification at page 5, lines 28-29). An array of electroluminescent cells 102 are distributed between the front plate 106 and the rear plate 100 (*see*, FIG. 4 and the specification at page 5, lines 29-31). The front plate 106 includes an array of cavities 107, formed within its internal face corresponding to the face in contact with the sealed space 111, that are distributed between the array of electroluminescent cells 102 and which contain an absorbent agent 108 (*see*, FIG. 4 and the specification at page 5, lines 32-34).

Boroson et al. describes a moisture sensitive electronic device 14 (*see*, Boroson et al. at FIG. 6B and column 1, lines 9-12). The moisture sensitive electronic device 14 includes a substrate 10 having thereon multiple moisture sensitive electronic devices 12 (*see*, Boroson et al. at FIG. 6B and column 10,

lines 46-49). An encapsulation enclosure 30 in conjunction with sealing material 20 define a space around each moisture sensitive electronic device 12 (*see*, Boroson et al. at FIG. 6B and column 10, lines 49-54). Water absorbing material 60 is positioned directly above each moisture sensitive electronic device 12 (*see*, Boroson et al. at FIG. 6B and column 10, lines 54-56).

Boroson et al. does not describe or suggest an image display panel having a front plate and a rear plate with a sealed space therebetween within which an array of electroluminescent cells are distributed, wherein the front plate includes an array of cavities, formed within its internal face corresponding to the face in contact with the sealed space, that are distributed between the array of electroluminescent cells and which contain an absorbent agent. Rather, Boroson et al. only teaches positioning which water absorbing material directly above encapsulated moisture sensitive electronic devices. Since Boroson et al. does not describe or suggest an image display panel having a front plate and a rear plate with a sealed space therebetween within which an array of electroluminescent cells are distributed, wherein the front plate includes an array of cavities, formed within its internal face corresponding to the face in contact with the sealed space, that are distributed between the array of electroluminescent cells and which contain an absorbent agent, claim 1 is patentable over Boroson et al.

Claims 2-6 depend directly, or indirectly, from claim 1. In view of this dependency the applicants submit that claims 2-6 are also patentable over Boroson et al.

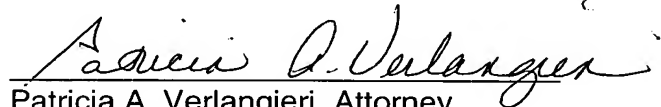
## CONCLUSION

Thus, the applicants submit that none of the claims, presently in the application, are obvious under the provisions of 35 U. S. C. § 103. Consequently, the applicants believe that all of the claims are presently in condition for

allowance. Accordingly, both reconsideration of this application and its swift passage to issue are earnestly solicited.

If, however, the Examiner believes that there are any unresolved issues requiring adverse final action in any of the claims now pending in the application, it is requested that the Examiner telephone, Ms. Patricia A. Verlangieri, at (609) 734-6867, so that appropriate arrangements can be made for resolving such issues as expeditiously as possible.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Patricia A. Verlangieri", written over a horizontal line.

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